

FEDERAL ACQUISITION INSTITUTE



Suspension & Debarment – What Makes a Successful Meeting

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Maria Swaby is the Suspension and Debarment Official (SDO) for the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). As SDO, Maria takes appropriate suspension, debarment or other administrative actions with government-wide effect to protect the Federal Government's interests. In addition, Maria supports GSA's Senior Procurement Executive on a variety of acquisition policy and government contracts issues. Maria is also GSA's Agency Protester Official (APO) and she hears and decides protests filed at the agency level. Prior to the SDO and APO positions, Maria was the

Director, Suspension & Debarment and Contract Remedies Division for GSA. In that role, Maria was responsible for the management and oversight of GSA's suspension and debarment program, and the agency protest, eligibility determination, task order, and metrication ombudsman functions.

Maria received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and French from the University of Connecticut and a *Juris Doctor* from the University of Connecticut School of Law. Maria studied for one year in Rouen, France, during college, and for one semester in Aix-en-Provence, France, during law school. She also has an LL.M. degree from The George Washington Law School. Maria is a member of the Connecticut Bar Association, the American Bar Association - Public Contracts Law Section, and the National Contract Management Association. She is a former co-chair of the ABA Suspension & Debarment Subcommittee, speaks regularly on the topic of suspension and debarment to the legal, government, contractor and public procurement communities, and serves as a consultant to foreign governments on their suspension and debarment systems.